

From: Susan Mazurski July 5, 2011 4:39:26 PM
Subject: Board of Selectmen Minutes 06/13/2011 APPROVED
To: SimsburyCT_SelectMin
Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY - BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:35p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: First Selectman Mary Glassman; Board members Nancy Haase, Moira Wertheimer, John Hampton, Lisa Heavner and Robert Hensley. Others in attendance included Tom Cooke, Dave Ryan, Hiram Peck and other interested parties.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Mr. Ryan, Chairman of the Performing Arts Board, announced that "Little House" would be performing at the Performing Arts Center on Iron Horse Blvd on June 17th. He also said the first Talcott Mountain Music Festival concert would be held on June 24th, where fireworks will also be held. Tickets can be purchased on a link on Simsburymeadows.com and Fitzgerald's. He also noted that the rain dates are Saturday, June 18th and Saturday, June 25th.

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive said the Charter Revision Commission held a hearing for public input. She said that 100% of the people wanted the Town to incorporate a Town Manager form of government. She feels the residents should decide the form of government, not the political parties.

Ms. Coe also spoke about some newspaper articles about the PAC Committee management at the Performing Arts. She spoke about the sandwich boards around Town being a violation of zoning regulations. She also spoke again about allowing alcohol at some of the events. She feels this is putting the tax payers at risk.

Ms. Coe also spoke about the Town Zoning Officer, who doesn't have to approve anything. She also spoke about some purchases the Town made, which she doesn't understand.

Sue Bednarczyk, 119 E. Weatogue Road spoke about the land use planning and the Route 10 corridor. She feels more specifications should be in the PAD and said "the picture needs to match the words".

Steve Mitchell, 432 Hopmeadow Street said the Board of Trustees of the East Coast Greenway Project had the most successful board meeting ever. He thanked everyone who helped with the meeting in Simsbury. Governor Malloy gave \$1.1million dollars for a feasibility study for the New York to New Haven portion. He showed the plan of the East Coast Greenway on a map. They have asked Governor Malloy to come in September for a ribbon cutting. The Board thanked Mr. Mitchell for all of his hard work.

FIRST SELECTMAN REPORT

Ms. Glassman said the Town of Simsbury received the Government Finance Officer Association Award for the 2009-10 financial reporting. This is a sign of a huge accomplishment for the Town and she thanked former Finance Director Kevin Kane for a great job.

Ms. Glassman said the Simsbury Farmer's Market is now open. Hours are 3:00-6:00 p.m., but on Thursdays they will stay open until 6:30 p.m. thru June.

Ms. Glassman thanked the Wadsworth Atheneum for sponsoring a free Simsbury Day. A bus load of seniors went to the program and had a great time.

Ms. Glassman also thanked the Highway Dept. for taking care of the Town during the storm last Thursday. They did a great job.

SELECTMEN ACTIONS

a) Approve Tax Refunds

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$337.85 as requested and approved by the tax collector. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Accept a donation of \$21,910 in gifts from the Friends of the Simsbury Public Library

Ms. Hampton made motion to accept the donation of \$21,910 in gifts from the Simsbury Public Library as presented by Leslie Bruder, Treasurer. Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Accept a donation of \$5,000 for the Paw Meadow Dog Park from Ronald and Nancy Compton

Ms. Heavner made motion to accept a donation of \$5,000 for the Paw Meadow Dog Park from Ronald and Nancy Compton. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the

motion passed.

d) Approve the request of the Dravet Foundation to hold a fundraising walk on Iron Horse Boulevard on October 2, 2011 and use of the Bandshell

Ms. Haase made motion to approve of the Dravet Foundation to hold a fundraising walk on Iron Horse Boulevard on October 2, 2011 and use of the bandshell. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

e) Authorize the First Selectman to apply for a 2012 STEAP Grant for a series of related improvements to streets in and near Simsbury Center

Ms. Glassman noted that the proposed improvements are:

- ! Installing the pedestrian/crosswalks bump-out on Hopmeadow Street, near Station Street

- ! Drainage adjustments to Riverside Road, near Drake Hill Road to reduce the frequency of road flooding due to water backing up through the storm sewers only the roadway

- ! Repair of expansion joints on the 24 year old Drake Hill Bridge. This will prevent water from draining onto bridge structural members, with subsequent corrosion.

- ! Improving the river access point on Riverside Road

Ms. Heavner made motion to authorize Mary Glassman to sign the STEAP application. Mr. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

f) Set a date for a Public Hearing to discuss adding a proposed ordinance, Sec. 141-33, permitting the Tax Collector to waive taxes and refunds of

under \$5.00

Mr. Hampton made motion to set a Public Hearing date of June 27, 2011, before the Board of Selectmen meeting, to discuss adding a proposed ordinance Sec. 141-33, Refunding/ Waiving Property Taxes due under \$5.00. A) The Tax Collector shall have the authority to retain a payment/refund in excess of the amount due provided the amount of the excess payment/refund is less than five dollars. B) The Tax Collector shall have the authority to waive any property tax due in an amount less than five dollars. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

g) Authorize issuance of an RFP for a cost-benefit analysis of the Town of Simsbury's retirement plans and potential change changes to those plans and include the Board of Education plan if the Board of Education chooses to participate in the study

After some discussion, Mr. Hampton made motion to authorize issuance of an RFP for a cost-benefit analysis of the Town of Simsbury's retirement plans and potential changes to those plans and include the Board of Education plan if the Board of Education chooses to participate in the

study. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

h) Update on the Tariffville Post Office

Ms. Glassman noted that the public comment deadline about this closing is July 17, 2011.

Mr. Hampton thanked the Tariffville Village Association who have been fighting the closing of the Tariffville Post Office since February.

Some residents said there have been a lot of problems obtaining their mail now and thanked the Board for their support.

Mr. Hampton made motion "Resolved, Whereas, the Tariffville Post Office has provided a vital and necessary service to the Village, including its elderly and disabled residents, its multiple small businesses, and its religious and educational institutions; and Whereas, the premature closure of this branch is detrimental to the quality of life of local residents, depriving them of this valuable service; and Whereas, the Tariffville Post Office is a critical economic anchor to Tariffville Center; and Whereas, permanent closure of this local Branch would place an unnecessary burden on the Simsbury, Weatogue and West Simsbury Post Office Branches;

Now, therefore, be it resolved:

That the Board of Selectmen joins with the Tariffville Village Association and all the residents of Tariffville in strongly opposing the closure of the Post Office Branch and urging the Post Office to reopen the Branch utilizing one of the several potential locations previously recommended by the Town.

Ms. Heavner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

a) Review request of Bruce M. Kaplan on behalf of Fiddler, LLC for permission to use the Eno Memorial Hall parking lot for all Iron Horse Boulevard events and all concerts from June 4, 2011 to December 1, 2011

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve the request of Mr. Kaplan on behalf of Fiddler, LLC for permission to use Eno Memorial Hall parking lot for all Iron Horse Boulevard events and all concerts from June 4, 2001 to December 1, 2011. Ms. Wertheimer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

a) Appoint Robert Kulakowski (R) as an alternate to the Planning Commission replacing

the vacancy of Sean Askham with an expiration date of December 5, 2011

Mr. Hampton made motion to appoint Robert Kulakowski as an alternate to the Planning Commission with an expiration date of December 5, 2011. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

b) Appoint Gregory W. Piecuch (R) as a full member of the Zoning Board of Appeals replacing the vacancy of Nancy Haase with an expiration date of December 5, 2011

Ms. Haase made motion to appoint Gregory W. Piecuch as a full member of the Zoning Board of Appeals with an expiration date of December 5, 2011. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

c) Accept the resignation of Cathy Barnard (D) as a full member of the Recycling Committee effective May 21, 2011

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to accept the resignation of Cathy Barnard, with thanks, as a full member of the Recycling Committee effective May 21, 2011. Ms. Haase seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting, May 23, 2011

Mr. Hensley made motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 23, 2011 with corrections on page 4 and 6. Ms. Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Glassman noted that Mr. Peck asked about placing the banners on the poles and a policy is in place for this. This is not a State road and doesn't require Board of Selectmen approval.

SELECTMEN LIAISON AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Personnel - No report at this time.
2. Finance - No report at this time.
3. Welfare - No report at this time.
4. Public Safety - No report at this time.
5. Board of Education

Ms. Heavner noted that Tuesday, June 14th is graduation day at the High School and congratulated everyone.

Ms. Haase noted that Main Street Partnership received an Award of Excellence and congratulated everyone.

Ms. Haase said that the High School and Free Public Library were recognized for an Image Enhancement Award and she congratulated everyone.

Ms. Haase went to the Simsbury Scholars Evening at the High School and said it was a great tradition and event.

Mr. Hensley said he was asked to speak at the Civics Class and there was great communication with everyone. He was very impressed with all the comments and questions.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Wertheimer made motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Mr. Hensley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman
First Selectman